I CLAIM:

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1. A real-time video-assisted apparatus for use by a speaker and hearing impaired persons, for reproducing in real-time an image of the speaker's mouth, comprising:

- a headset frame to be removably installed on the head of the speaker;

- a real-time image transmission and display circuit including:

a) a miniature camera rigidly carried by said headset frame ahead of the speaker's mouth and destined to target at least the speaker's mouth for catching continuous video images therefrom;

b) a low-power video transmitter operatively linked to said camera, for coding the video images caught by said camera and for real-time transmission thereof as a low-power wireless video signal, said video transmitter including a power device for powering said camera and said video transmitter;

c) at least one video receiver, located substantially closely to said video transmitter, for receiving said low-power wireless video signal in real-time from said video transmitter and decoding it into video images; and

d) at least one visualising device operatively linked to said at least one video receiver, for visualising the images decoded by said video receiver in real-time relative to the sound emitted by the speaker;

wherein said apparatus includes a real-time transmission of the images of the speaker's mouth to said at least one visualising device, whereby at least the lip movements of the speaker are

followed in real-time simultaneously by any number of hearing impaired persons looking at the visualising device notwithstanding the head orientation or position of the speaker relative to the hearing impaired persons.

2. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said video transmitter emits said video signal at a maximum field strength of 50 millivolts per meter measured at a distance of three meters from said video transmitter.

3. A video assisted apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

- a microphone carried by said headset frame and linked to an audio transmitter, for catching the sound waves emitted by the speaker's voice in a continuous fashion;
- a low-power audio transmitter operatively linked to said microphone, for coding the sounds caught by said microphone and for real-time transmission thereof as a low-power wireless audio signal, said audio transmitter including a power device for powering said microphone and said audio transmitter;
- at least one audio receiver, located substantially closely to said audio transmitter, for receiving said low-power wireless audio signal in real time from said audio transmitter and decoding it into sounds; and
- at least one amplifying device operatively linked to said at least one audio receiver, for emitting the sounds decoded by said audio receiver in real-time relative to the sound emitted directly by the speaker;

wherein said apparatus includes a real-time transmission of the sounds of the speaker's mouth to said at least one amplifying device, whereby the speech of the speaker can be simultaneously heard directly from the speaker and through said video-assisted apparatus.

4. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein said audio transmitter emits said audio signal at a maximum field strength of 80 millivolts per meter measured at a distance of 3 meters from said audio transmitter.

5. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 4, wherein said video transmitter emits said video signal at a maximum field strength of 50 millivolts per meter measured at a distance of three meters from said video transmitter.

6. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 5, wherein said video transmitter and said audio transmitter are two separate units, and wherein said audio receiver and said video receiver are also two separate units, whereby said wireless video signal and said wireless audio signal are transmitted as two distinct signals on respective wave bands.

7. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein said video signal is transmitted in the frequency range of 902-928 MHz, while said audio signal is transmitted in the frequency range of 72-76 MHz.

8. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein said video transmitter and said audio transmitter are embedded into a single transmitter element, whereby said audio signal and said video signal are transmitted as a single, combined signal.

9. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein said amplifying device is a hearing aid device.

10. A video-assisted apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein said microphone, said audio transmitter and said audio receiver are sensitive to a frequency range substantially within the average human sound sensitivity of 20Hz to 20 000 Hz.